

## **THE STATE OF GEORGIA 1915(b) PROGRAM**

Project Name:	Georgia Mental Health and Mental Retardation Preadmission Screening and Annual Resident Review (PASARR) Program
Project Renewal Approval:	April 9, 2001
Project Renewal Expiration:	April 8, 2003

### **PROGRAM SUMMARY**

The Georgia Mental Health and Mental Retardation Preadmission Screening and Annual Resident Review, also known as the PASARR waiver, is a 1915 (b) mental retardation rehabilitation services program. The purpose of this waiver is to assure Medicaid recipients residing in rural and urban nursing facilities access to mental health/mental retardation rehabilitation services. Cost containment is achieved by contracting with one provider who will provide MH/MR rehabilitation services at a capitated rate. This waiver was initially approved for a period beginning February 21, 1998 through February 20, 2000.

### **HEALTH CARE DELIVERY**

The State uses a competitive procurement process. The Georgia Department of Community Health conducted a competitive procurement under the requirement of the Georgia Vendor manual. Georgia conducted a sealed, competitive Request for Proposal. First Health was selected and has contracted with approximately 400 mental health agencies to serve 2,500 Medicaid recipients in urban and rural Georgia.

### **BENEFIT PACKAGE**

The objective of this program is to provide Medicaid recipients who reside in nursing facilities in both urban and rural locations access to mental health and mental retardation rehabilitation services. Services included under this program:

- Consultation with nursing facility staff and the resident attending physician on medication changes
- Crisis intervention services
- Behavior change intervention services
- Individual group or family activity/counseling services
- Skills training services
- Psychiatric assessment and care services
- Staff in-service training
- Habilitation
- Case Management
- Psychiatrist on-call
- Psychiatric staff review

## **ENROLLMENT**

The waiver was implemented statewide and enrollment is mandatory for Medicaid recipients residing in rural and urban nursing facilities.

## **COST EFFECTIVENESS**

This program is proven to be cost effective. The waiver will continue to achieve cost effectiveness by competitively bidding and contracting with one provider who will provide rehabilitation services at a capitated rate.

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July 1, 2002